## NEWS RELEASE

## HOWARD COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF POLICE OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

For release: Feb. 23, 2016 Contact: Sherry Llewellyn, 410-313-2236

stllewellyn@how ard countymd.gov

## **Detectives track attempted murder suspect to Texas**

Hollis Ray Walton, III, has been charged and extradited to Howard County

Howard County police detectives have charged a Columbia man in a December attempted murder case after he was located in Texas.

Hollis Ray Walton, III, 28, of Kilimanjaro Rd., has been charged with attempted murder, assault and firearms violations in the Dec. 5 shooting and stabbing of Earl Brinkley Williams, 28, of Baltimore. Williams was transported to Shock Trauma in critical condition at the time of the incident. He has since been treated and released.

Police were called to the 6300 block of Windharp Way in Columbia at approximately 6:05 p.m., for a report of a man who had been shot. Officers were notified when Williams went to a nearby house for assistance.

Detectives responded and found blood and shell casings in a residential driveway and a gun in the bushes of a nearby home. They also located a cell phone at the scene. It was determined that the residents inside the house were not involved in the incident and not connected to the victim or suspect.

Police investigated the cell phone found at the scene and determined Walton was the owner. They also learned that text messages regarding illegal drugs had been sent between Williams and Walton shortly before the shooting.

After further investigation, a warrant was issued for Walton's arrest. Police began searching for Walton and determined he had fled to Arlington, Texas after the shooting and was staying with a relative. He was arrested on the warrant by Arlington Police and extradited back to Maryland.

Walton is currently being held without bond at the Howard County Detention Center.

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